Application No.: 09/830,554 Docket No.: OKA-0028

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A process for producing a magnetic recording medium which comprises:

applying a non-magnetic layer coating material onto a non-magnetic support;

drying the coating material to form a non-magnetic layer;

curing the non-magnetic layer after drying the non-magnetic layer coating material; and

dispersing a magnetic layer coating material again by means of an online dispersion

apparatus; and

immediately applying a the magnetic layer coating material more excessively than an intended magnetic layer-wet thickness onto the non-magnetic layer by using a die nozzle coating followed by scraping excess amounts of the magnetic layer coating material to the intended magnetic layer-wet thickness by means of a bar to form a magnetic coating layer.

- 8. (Previously presented) The process for producing the magnetic recording medium according to claim 7, wherein 2 to 20 times as large amounts of the magnetic layer coating material as the intended magnetic layer-wet thickness is applied onto the non-magnetic layer by using the die nozzle coating.
- 9. (Previously presented) The process for producing the magnetic recording medium according to claim 7, wherein a solid component concentration of the magnetic layer coating material is 10% by weight or less.

Claims 10-15 (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) A process for producing a magnetic recording medium, which comprises:

applying a non-magnetic layer coating material onto a non-magnetic support; drying the coating material to form a non-magnetic layer;

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radiation-curing the non-magnetic layer after drying the non-magnetic layer coating material; and

applying a magnetic layer coating material more excessively than an intended magnetic layer-wet thickness onto the non-magnetic layer by using a die nozzle coating followed by scraping excess amounts of the magnetic layer coating material to the intended magnetic layer-wet thickness by means of a bar to form a magnetic coating layer.

- 17. (Previously presented) The process for producing the magnetic recording medium according to claim 16, wherein 2 to 20 times as large amounts of the magnetic layer coating material as the intended magnetic layer-wet thickness is applied onto the non-magnetic layer by using the die nozzle coating.
- 18. (Previously presented) The process for producing the magnetic recording medium according to claim 16, wherein a solid component concentration of the magnetic layer coating material is 10% by weight or less.
- 19. (Previously presented) The process for producing the magnetic recording medium according to claim 18, which comprises dispersing the magnetic layer coating material again by means of an online dispersion apparatus immediately before applying the magnetic layer coating material onto the non-magnetic layer.
- 20. (New) The process for producing the magnetic recording medium according to claim 16, wherein the bar is a wire bar or a non-wire coater bar in which a channel is formed thereon.
- 21. (New) The process for producing the magnetic recording medium according to claim 16, wherein the magnetic recording medium has the magnetic layer with a dry thickness of 0.02 to  $0.08~\mu m$ .
- 22. (New) The process for producing the magnetic recording medium according to claim 7, wherein the bar is a wire bar or a non-wire coater bar in which a channel is formed thereon.

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23. (New) The process for producing the magnetic recording medium according to claim 7, wherein the magnetic recording medium has the magnetic layer with a dry thickness of 0.02 to 0.08  $\mu$ m.